58. An apparatus according to claim 52, wherein said base apparatus is a printer apparatus, and a sheet feeding portion of said scanner apparatus is provided frontward with respect to a sheet feeding portion of said printer apparatus.

59. A multiple-function apparatus, comprising:

a printer apparatus of an automatic sheet feeding type and including a sheet transporting path extending substantially vertically; and

a scanner apparatus of an automatic sheet feeding type and including a sheet transporting path extending substantially vertically, wherein said sheet transporting paths of said scanner apparatus and printer apparatus are provided adjacent to each other, and a sheet guide provided at least at a part of said sheet transporting path of said scanner apparatus serves as a cover for said printer apparatus.

60. A multiple-function apparatus according to claim 59, wherein said scanner apparatus is removably mounted on said printer apparatus, and said scanner apparatus is so implemented as to be capable of operating as a hand scanner in a case where said scanner apparatus is detached from said printer apparatus.

REMARKS

Claims 7-10, 19-23, 24, 25 and 34-60 are in the case and are presented for consideration. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled original claims 1-6, 11-18 and 26-

33. Applicant is now presenting five additional claims including a total of nine independent claims. Applicant submits herewith the appropriate check for five additional claims and six independent claims in excess of three.

By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims including original claim 1. Additionally, Applicant has canceled original claims 14 and 16 and claims 26-33 subject to Applicant's right to pursue these in a Divisional Application. The invention of these claims includes the feature that a motor is provided inside the scanner unit which is commonly used for plural functions. That is, when the scanner unit is attached to the base apparatus, the motor is used for sheet transportation. When the scanner is removed from the base apparatus and used as a hand held scanner, the motor is used for self-traveling of the scanner. Although Applicant has canceled the claims as noted above, Applicant does not agree to the rejection and the cancellation of the claims is not to be interpreted as an acceptance of the rejection. Specifically, Applicant is pursuing the claims in a further application. Applicant traverses the rejection below and notes Applicant's arguments herein to clearly note that the cancellation of the claims is not an acceptance of the outstanding rejection.

By this Amendment, Applicant presents claims 7-10 based on the allowable subject matter of original claims 7. Additionally, Applicant has presented claims 24 and 25. Original claims 24 was indicated to be allowable. It is Applicant's position that new revised claims 24 and 25 as well as new dependent claim 50 are in condition for allowance. Further, new claim 51 also includes features from original claim 24 and it is asserted that claim 51 is also allowable.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 11, 14, 19-20 and 21-23 as being anticipated by

Kojima et al. (US 5,412,490). Applicant wishes to address this rejection based on Applicant's revised claims. Reconsideration of the rejection in view of the revised claims is requested.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 4-6, 12, 13, 15-18, 26-29 and 30-33 as being unpatentable over Kojima as applied to claim 1 above, in further in view of Tamura (US 5,602,650).

Applicant's new claim 34 includes the subject matter of original claims 4 and 6. The combination of features of new claim 34 are significant and subject matter defines over the prior art of record.

In the apparatus of the present invention as set forth in claim 34, the paper path of the base and the paper path of the scanner extend vertically such that they are provided along and adjacent to each other. When the scanner is attached to the base, the opposing surface of the base apparatus forms the paper path of the scanner (When the scanner is detached, it functions as a cover).

This feature is not disclosed in Tamura and Kojima. That is, Tamura and Kojima do not disclose that the second sheet transporting path extending substantially vertically is defined by a surface of the scanner on which the reading element is provided and a surface of the base apparatus in a case where said scanner is mounted on the base apparatus. This is a different structure and arrangement as compared with a cover. The apparatus of the present invention does not have a dedicated scanner cover. Therefore, it is unnecessary to provide a mounting area for attachment of a cover. This structure, together with the vertical paper path, reduces the size of the apparatus and the number of parts, so that the apparatus can be manufactured

at low costs. The apparatus shown in the references has a dedicated cover.

Kojima and Tamura each disclose an apparatus in which a boomerang-type paper path (in which a paper feed port and a paper discharge port are oriented in the same direction) is employed for the paper paths of the base and the scanner. In such a structure, since four (4) ports are present on the same side, the size of the apparatus cannot be decreased.

By contrast, since the apparatus of the present invention has "two (2) straight paper paths along each other " which extend vertically such that they are provided along and adjacent to each other, the size (especially, depth) of the apparatus can be decreased.

Further, Kotani does not disclose a paper path in the base. In Shimizu, two paper paths are not formed to be adjacent to each other. These two references do not disclose the feature of the present invention as set forth in the claims.

The invention claimed in new claim 38 includes a second transporting guide provided along the first transporting guide, and the second apparatus is provided in a space which is defined by the first and second transporting guides and increases with deflection of the deflecting guide of the first transporting guide. Thus, there can be reduced spaces required for disposition of the first and second apparatus and the first and second transporting guides.

The invention claimed in new claim 40 provides for the employment of an angle smaller than 90 degrees with the vertical direction, a long (or enough) transporting length can be attained to provide a sheet having a certain shape even when the apparatus volume is small.

The invention claimed in new independent claim 41 has first and second sheets delivered in the same direction, thereby effecting good useability. Also, the first and second sheet

delivery ports are provided at the same side of the multiple function apparatus. Thus, when the multiple function apparatus is installed for use, there is no need for leaving separate spaces for sheets which would otherwise be delivered from different sides of the multiple function apparatus as in the case where the first and second sheet delivery ports are provided at different sides of said multiple function apparatus.

The invention claimed in new claim 42 has the first sheet (document) loaded into the multiple function apparatus as needed and can be easily inserted through the opening of the first transporting guide located at the front side of the multiple function apparatus. The second transporting guide is located behind the first transporting guide, causing some difficulty in insertion of the second sheet. However, since the sheet accommodating part capable of accommodating a plurality of sheets is provided, the number of sheet loading operations can be reduced.

The invention claimed in new claim 43 has the number of component parts reduced.

The invention claimed in new claim 44 has the features that when a sheet jam occurs in the printer apparatus, or the printer apparatus is to be repaired, access to a relevant location is facilitated. Further, the multiple function apparatus becomes compact. And, the number of component parts is reduced.

The invention claimed in new claim 45 provides the multiple function apparatus as a compact structure.

As noted above, claims 7-10 have been rewritten to present them in allowable form. Claim 7 depended from original claims 1, 2, 4, and 6. Revised claim 7 is presented in

independent form while substantially maintaining the features of the claims 1, 2, 4 and 6. In claim 8, the description "auxiliary rollers" has been changed to "protecting member," and a feature on "roller hardness" has been deleted. The description "grooves" appearing in claim 10 has been changed.

With regard to the claims 19-23, claim 19 is now presented in independent form. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested.

Kojima discloses a scanner which is designed to be rotated backward only, not frontward. The scanner claimed in the present claims 19-23 is to be rotated frontward. By holding the scanner rotatably to the frontward direction, maintenance is facilitated. For example, upon occurrence of a sheet jam, it can be easily remedied. See FIG.3 of the present application.

Further, Kojima and Tamura do not disclose that the base unit including a part of a sheet transporting mechanism and the scanner including the other part of the sheet transporting mechanism. Accordingly, claim 19 and claims depending on claim 19 patentably define over the prior art.

New claims 46 - 49 are directed to the upper features of claim 19. This structure is also not taught and not suggested by Kojima and Tamura. Claims 46 - 49 are allowable over the prior art.

Revised claims 24 has been rewritten in independent form. Some rewording of the original claim has been made. However, it is asserted that claim 24 is now allowable. Revised claim 25 now also includes the features of original claim 2.

As noted above, claims 26-33 have been canceled subject to Applicant's right to cover these in a Divisional Application. Nevertheless, Applicant wishes to make comments noting that Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and will continue the prosecution of the subject matter in a separate application.

Tamura discloses, shown in figure 21, an electric power source for motor drive being supplied from a motor power supply 91 to a feeding means 22. The motor is provided within the feeding means 22 as shown in figure 8. As is clearly shown in Tamura, a roller 122 in figure 14 is rotated by a roller which is directly driven and rotated by the motor via a shaft. Even when other drawings are reviewed, Tamura does not provide any teaching or suggestion of a feature that an image reading device 3 includes a motor. Therefore, it is not correct that the image reading device 3 includes a motor on the basis of the description in Tamura, for example at column 7, lines 23-58. The invention of claims 26-33 provides a first roller on a side or a removable scanner apparatus, thereby imparting to the first roller of the function of a pick up roller in the case where the scanner apparatus is mounted on the base unit, and function of a guide roller for guiding the scanner apparatus on the document sheet in the case where the scanner is used in a detached state (hand held/hand use). Thus, there is no need for providing the base unit with a pick roller, thereby reducing the number of component parts and achieving a compact apparatus size. Accordingly, it is Applicant's position that the canceled claims which are to be prosecuted in a Divisional Application, clearly patentably define over the prior art.

New claims 52 sets forth the invention including a cover. This combination of features provides significant advantages over the structure of the prior art. The prior art together fail

provides significant advantages over the structure of the prior art. The prior art together fail to teach or suggest the combination of features of new claim 52.

The structure of claim 59 has the sheet transporting paths of an automatic sheet feeding type provided to extend substantially vertically. This allows for the installation area to be reduced. The prior art fails to teach or suggest the combination of features as set forth in claim 59. Accordingly, it is Applicant's position that claims 59 is clearly allowable over the prior art.

It is requested that the Examiner favorable consider the revised claims and new claims submitted with this response.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By: _____
John James McGlew
Registration No. 31,903
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:jj/sk
56356.24

DATED: September 29, 1999
SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827
(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE

ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, NO.:EL353837814US
McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.
SCARBOROUGH STATION, SCARBOROUGH, NY 10510-0827

BY: _____ DATE: September 29, 1999